

**GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION FOR A DRUG FREE INDIANA**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 15, 2006**

**INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER SOUTH – CONFERENCE ROOM C**

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**Members in attendance:** John von Arx, Chairman; A. Wyatt Mullinax; James Lyons; Rep. Vernon Smith; Bruce Copple; Jeff Barber; Tim Kelly

**Guests in attendance:** Sandy Thiebe (Morgan County); Kimberly Maxwell (Morgan County); Terry Cohen (ICJI); Steven King (ICJI); Marcia French (SPF-SIG Coordinator); David Bozell (DMHA); Patricia Cooney (ICJI); Laura Coykendall (ICJI)

**Welcome and Announcements**

- Chairman John von Arx welcomed the attendees and introduced the Commission's newest member, Bruce Copple.
- Bruce introduced himself and told everyone that he was happy to be a member of the Commission.
- Sonya Cleveland announced that President Bush and the Department of Justice have chosen November 30, 2006 as Meth Awareness Day. ICJI staff and U.S. Attorney Susan Brooks have met to discuss plans for that day and will make Commission members aware of the events as they are finalized.
- Steven King, Division Director for the Drug and Crime Control Division for the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, announced that he and Cecilia Wylie distributed 50,000 tamper tags to the agro-community on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The tags will be distributed to farmers when tanks are purchased. The tags come with a reflective Meth Watch sticker as well as a brochure on how to use the tags.
- Representative Vernon Smith announced that if the Commission had legislation that still needed an author, he would be happy to look at it.

**SPF-SIG Update – Marcia French**

- The SPF-SIG Strategic Plan has been drafted and sent to CSAP. Once CSAP has reviewed it and returned it to the group they will present it to the Governor's Advisory Council.
- They are in the process of deciding whether they will use an RFP system or a Grant system when they are ready to distribute the funds to the communities.
- The Epidemiological work group has completed their profile and begun to distribute it.
- There are six priorities that the group has chosen to focus on. They are:
  - Alcohol
  - Tobacco
  - Marijuana
  - Meth
  - Prescription Drugs
  - Cocain
- Colleen Copple explains that SPF-SIG stands for Strategic Framework Prevention – State Incentive Grant. She also explained that the state receives \$11.7 Million over a five year period to use data to locate the areas with the most problems and fund programs to help them.

### **Review of MFI Coalition Strategic Plan – Colleen Copple**

- A copy of the Meth Free Indiana Coalition's Strategic Plan was provided to Commission Members for their review.
- Colleen walked the members through the plan, page by page, and gave the Commission members the opportunity to comment on the Coalition's work. During this review, Colleen stressed to the Commission members that they should be careful not to duplicate the work that has already been done by the Coalition.
- Colleen Copple asked Jason Hutchens to explain the Meth Data Repository to the Commission and to update them on its progress.
  - Jason explained that the Meth Repository is funded by a grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. A report was completed by the Research Division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute explaining that the repository would include 55 different players who keep data on Meth. In order to gather the information and to start the repository the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Research Division partnered with the IUPUI Urban Center. The repository project also includes an initiative to start an electronic retail log to help better track the purchase of pseudo ephedrine.
  - Jason Hutchens explained that they are in the process of selecting a vendor for the project and that following the vendor selection they will only have a few administrative hurdles to cross before the project is complete.
  - Jason further emphasized the importance of the repository by stating that the only way ICJI can get money from the Federal Government is by establishing a need through data and research.
- Colleen explained that the information from the repository can be interpreted on a local level and that it will be very helpful in identifying what areas are most affected by meth.
- Colleen also explained that the Meth Free Indiana Coalition's Action Plan can be used by the Commission to recognize the systems that need to be enhanced which will in turn strengthen the way we handle all other drug issues.
- Colleen continued to explain the Meth Free Indiana Coalition's Strategic Plan by directing the group to the Coordination Model Page. Colleen stressed that the model on the page was a coordination model, not an organization chart, because all of the groups and agencies on the page should be working together to achieve one specific goal.
- John von Arx asked whether the groups and agencies represented on the page were the only players in the model, or if there were other players in the Coordination Model. Colleen confirmed that there would be some other groups or agencies that might affect the final outcome, but that those groups would do so through those agencies and groups represented on the Coordination Model.
- Colleen also explained that the MFI Coalition had created working groups to ensure that their work would be "out-come oriented." Prior to the creation of the working groups the group was looking at the situation from an agency specific point of view. The working groups have been able to create outcomes and helped to make the group a more cohesive unit.

- Colleen explained that the last few pages of the handout were the action plans of the various working groups and briefly outlined what they said.
- The MFI Coalition has set a goal of November 30<sup>th</sup> to have their Strategic Plan posted on their website.
- John von Arx asked whether the Commission or the MFI Coalition had been probed by the Office of Management and Budget. Jason Hutchens answered that the Commission had been probed, but that it had been a while. He also stated that there were no major problems found with the Probe.
- John von Arx suggested that the Commission send its newest performance measures and the MFI Coalition Strategic Plan over to the Office of Management and Budget so that they are informed of what the two groups have been doing.

### **Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana Strategic Plan – Colleen Copple**

- Colleen Copple explained that there were 5 elements to the Commission's Strategic Plan and proposed that those 5 elements be the working groups for the Commission. They are:
  - Prevention
  - Treatment
  - Enforcement
  - Local and State Coordination
    - LCC's
    - MFI Coalition
  - Indiana Drug Control Policy
- Sonya Cleveland, Substance Abuse Services Director for the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, explains that John von Arx and Jason Hutchens have asked her to review and evaluate the Drug Control policies for other states and to develop a policy for the State of Indiana. The Commission will then review that policy and make legislative recommendations to the Governor.
- Colleen explained that the Commission's Strategic Plan will become a working agenda for the group and that the Governor's office will have a copy of that plan.
- Colleen informed the group that a meeting between 15 Law Enforcement Agencies had occurred on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November to discuss Interdiction. That group has decided to call themselves the Advanced Criminal Enforcement group. They have decided to focus on four specific areas and created four working groups to tackle those areas. The four areas are:
  - Policy/Legislative
  - Data Collection/Criminal Intelligence
  - Operations
  - Training
    - DIAP
    - Desert Snow
    - ICE
- Representative Smith mentioned that there is a legislative committee, the Alternative Sentencing Committee that is looking at the issue of giving harsher sentences to dealers and less harsh sentences to users.

- John von Arx replied to Representative Smith's statement by saying that the Commission is a group that focuses on the benefits of treating users and that the Commission should work closely with the Alternative Sentencing Committee to ensure that users are receiving treatment instead of long prison sentences.
- The group entered into a discussion about the importance of Drug Courts and the benefits of Treatment for users. Representative Smith said that he wanted to see the Commission do a good job of creating a holistic plan that focuses on the Drug issue, rather than just certain drugs, for the entire state.
- Following the group's conversation Colleen asked everyone to focus on the Prevention portion of the Strategic Plan. She asked Jeff Barber to go over some of the Prevention methods adopted by the Department of Education.
  - Jeff began by explaining Safe and Drug Free Schools.
  - Safe and Drug Free Schools is a formula grant administered by the Federal Government that flows through the Department of Education. The annual funding for this grant is decreasing.
  - Allocation amounts range anywhere from \$500.00 to \$350,000.00.
  - 93% of what they get from the Federal government goes to the schools, while 7% is retained by the state for administration and other fees.
- After Jeff had finished, Colleen had Dave Bozell from the Department of Mental Health Services Administration to tell the group about some of his agency's prevention methods.
  - Dave began by explaining that they receive a Substance Abuse Block grant every year that they are required to spend 20%.
  - The program that receives the biggest amount of this money is the Afternoon's Rock program. He explained that the program is an after school program administered at various locations throughout all 92 counties. Afternoon's Rock does administer a drug prevention program that is evidence based and administered by SAMHSA.
- Colleen thanked Jeff and Dave for their input and suggested that she and Sonya meet with them to put together an action plan for the prevention work group that would be ready for the Commission to review at the next meeting. She also mentioned that everyone should remain cognizant of the fact that the LCC's have a huge impact on the prevention framework in their communities.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

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**NEXT MEETING  
DECEMBER 20, 2006  
INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER SOUTH**